

Appl. No. : 09/380,534
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cnx
C1
delivering an antigen to the lymphatic system of the mammal at a level sufficient to induce an immunologic CTL response in the mammal; and

causing sustained exposure of the antigen to the mammal's lymphatic system by maintaining the antigen in the mammal's lymphatic system over time sufficient to maintain the immunologic CTL response longer than obtainable with an unsustained administration of the antigen distal to the lymphatic system.

C2
4. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the antigen is a disease matched antigen.

C3
14. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 4 wherein the antigen is delivered to the mammal by pumping a physiologically-acceptable, composition of the antigen from a device held external of the mammal's body through a transmission line positioned to deliver the antigen-containing composition so that the antigen reaches the mammal's lymph system.

C4
38. (Amended) A process for preparing a system useful for inducing a sustained CTL response in an animal needing such a response, which comprises:

placing a physiologically-acceptable, aqueous, antigen-containing composition in a reservoir having a pump adapted for delivering the composition at a defined rate through a transmission line to the lymphatic system of the animal.

C5
50. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said antigen is provided as a vector comprising a bacterium.

51. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said antigen is provided as a vector comprising a virus.

C6
59. (Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said antigen is a polypeptide.

60. (Amended) The method of claim 59, wherein said polypeptide consists of about 8-10 amino acids.

Please add new claims 66-71, as follows:

C7
66. The method of claim 1, wherein said sustained exposure of the antigen to the mammal's lymphatic system comprises continuous exposure of the antigen to the mammal's lymphatic system.

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67. The method of claim 1, wherein said sustained exposure of the antigen to the mammal's lymphatic system comprises repeated exposure of the antigen to the mammal's lymphatic system.

68. The method of claim 4, wherein the method is applied to a treatment of a mammal having a disease.

69. The method of claim 4, wherein the method is applied to a treatment of a mammal being predisposed to a disease.

70. The method of claim 14, wherein the transmission line comprises a catheter.

71. A process for using a system to induce a sustained CTL response in an animal needing such a response, which comprises:

providing a pump and reservoir device configured to deliver a composition at a defined rate via a transmission line to the lymphatic system of an animal;

placing a physiologically-acceptable, aqueous, antigen-containing composition into the reservoir, and

introducing the transmission line into the animal at a position permitting delivery of the composition to the lymphatic system.

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 and 39-65 remain presented for examination. All of the pending claims stand rejected. As set forth above, claims 1, 4, 14, 38, 50-51, and 59-60 have been amended. Further, new claims 66-71 have been submitted as set forth above. Respectfully, Applicants assert that the rejected claims are not anticipated by or obvious in view of the cited references, alone or in combination. However, as discussed more fully below, claim 1 has been amended to more clearly and distinctly set forth the subject matter of the invention. Applicants reserve the right to pursue broader claims in a continuation application. The amended claims and the new claims are supported by the specification and claims as filed, and thus, no new matter has been added.